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FILED

JUL 07 2005

GERALD C. ESCALA
P.J.S.C.

Attorney for the New Jersey Division
of Consumer Affairs, the New Jersey
State Board of Psychological Examiners,
the New Jersey State Board of Social Work
Examiners, the Professional Counselor
Examiners Committee and the New Jersey
State Board of Marriage and Family
Therapy Examiners

By: Susan C. Berger
Deputy Attorney General
Tel. (973) 648-4876

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION -BERGEN COUNTY
DOCKET NO. C-197-05, [REDACTED]

PETER C. HARVEY, ATTORNEY :
GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY; KIMBERLY :
RICKETTS, DIRECTOR OF :
THE NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF :
CONSUMER AFFAIRS; and :
THE NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF :
PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS, THE :
NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF :
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS, THE :
THE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR :
EXAMINERS COMMITTEE, and THE :
NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF :
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY :
EXAMINERS, :

Civil Action

ORDER

Plaintiffs,

v.

TARA GILLETTE,

Defendant.

This matter was opened to the Court, by Plaintiffs, Peter Harvey, Attorney General of New Jersey, the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs, the New Jersey State Board of Psychological Examiners, the State Board of Social Work Examiners, the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee and by the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners by the filing of an Order to Show Cause, with Verified Complaint, supporting certifications and a brief seeking permanent restraints, costs and attorney's fees.

The Verified Complaint alleged that Tara Gillette who was unlicensed and uncertified to perform any mental health therapy or counseling advertised that she was a Life Coach and able to help with depression, self esteem, career, relationships, partnerships, life journey, crisis and addiction. The Verified Complaint further alleged that she engaged in mental health therapy and/or counseling services for a fee.

Upon review of the documents submitted, admissions by Ms. Gillette that she advertised mental health therapy and/or counseling and engaged in mental health therapy and/or counseling for a fee and was not licensed or certified to perform such services, and the court finding that good cause exists for the entry of the within order;

IT IS on this 7th day of July 2005;

ORDERED:

1. Defendant Tara Gillette is permanently enjoined and restrained from offering or engaging or holding herself out as able to engage in the practice of marriage and family therapy services, psychology and/or psychotherapy services, social work, professional counseling, and/or any other mental health counseling evaluation and/or treatment in the State of New Jersey and/or advertising any mental health therapy including but not limited to using the title, description or designation "Life Coach," "Life Counselor," therapist and/or counselor unless and until fully authorized by the New Jersey State Board of Psychological Examiners, and/or the New Jersey State Board of Social Workers, and/or the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee and/or the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners to do so.

2. Defendant Tara Gillette is permanently enjoined and restrained from offering or engaging in any unconscionable commercial practice, deception, fraud, false pretense, false promise or misrepresentation and from using the description "Life Coach" and/or "Life Counselor", psychologist, social worker, certified counseling professional, professional counselor, marriage and family therapist and/or any other designation denoting any type of mental health services and/or counseling unless and until licensed or certified to do so.

3. Defendant Tara Gillette shall provide the Attorney General within ten (10) days of the filing of this Order with her appointment book and a list of all clients she treated from January

1, 2004 until the date of the filing of the Order, the number of visits for each client and an accounting of all payments by the clients and all insurance submissions.

4. Defendant Tara Gillette shall send each client she treated on or after January 1, 2004, a letter stating that she is not licensed and/or certified to practice mental health therapy and/or counseling and is not authorized to use the designation "Life Coach" and "Life Counselor." Defendant Tara Gillette shall submit a copy of each letter to the Division of Consumer Affairs within ten (20) days of the filing of the Consent Order which shall be mailed or delivered to Susan C. Berger, Deputy Attorney General, Department of Law and Public Safety, 124 Halsey Street, P.O. Box 45029, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

5. Defendant Tara Gillette shall pay full restitution to all ^{for whom} clients ~~that~~ she provided mental health counseling and/or therapy services in the State of New Jersey.

6. ~~Defendant shall pay civil penalties in the amount of~~
\$_____ to the State of New Jersey by certified check or money order payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey which shall be mailed or delivered to Susan C. Berger, Deputy Attorney General, Department of Law and Public Safety, 124 Halsey Street, P.O. Box 45029, Newark, New Jersey 07101. If payment in full is not made within ten (10) days of the filing of this Order, defendant shall also pay to the State interest at the post judgment rate of 1% for the ~~full period that any amount remains outstanding.~~

7. Defendant shall pay investigative costs in the amount of \$~~1000.00~~ to the State of New Jersey by certified check or money order payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey which shall be mailed or delivered to Susan C. Berger, Deputy Attorney General, Department of Law and Public Safety, 124 Halsey Street, P.O. Box 45029, Newark, New Jersey 07101. If payment in full is not made within ten (10) days of the filing of this Consent Order, defendant shall also pay to the State interest at the post judgment rate of 1% for the full period that any amount remains outstanding.

8. Defendant shall pay attorneys fees in the amount of \$5000.00 to the State of New Jersey by certified check or money order payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey which shall be mailed or delivered to Susan C. Berger, Deputy Attorney General, Department of Law and Public Safety, 124 Halsey Street, P.O. Box 45029, Newark, New Jersey 07101. If payment in full is not made within ten (10) days of the filing of this Consent Order, defendant shall also pay to the State interest at the post judgment rate of 1% for the full period that any amount remains outstanding.

9. Defendant shall immediately remove from all newspapers and websites and any other method of advertisement, including but not limited to telephone directories in which she is listed, any reference to her ability to treat any mental health therapy and/or counseling.



Gerald C. Escala, P.J.S.C.

July 7, 2005

This action was brought by the Attorney General of New Jersey by way of Order to Show Cause, filed June 8, 2005 and returnable on July 1, 2005. Defendant, Tara Gillette, was required to submit formal papers, i.e. an answer, to the court by June 28, 2005. See R. 4:67-5. Defendant, although given proper notice and ample time, did not submit any papers prior to the return date. Instead, at the hearing defendant presented the court with two letters and a newspaper article. One letter was signed by defendant and asserts that she was unaware of any laws prohibiting the unauthorized practice of counseling. Defendant also states that she is battling with breast cancer. The second letter is signed by Dr. Charles Berg. Dr. Berg states that in the past he sought out the services of defendant and believes she was helpful. Lastly, defendant submitted a newspaper article, in which she is interviewed, by the *Press of Atlantic City*. The article is entitled "A Coach in your Corner: life coaches offer a new kind of counseling, concentrating on the present and motivating people to reach their goals."

Although pursuant to R. 4:67-5 the court is not required to consider these documents, the court accepted the defendant's documents at the July 1, 2005 hearing. The court has reviewed the documents and considered them in making its decision to grant all the relief that the Attorney General seeks, except for civil penalties. The court, while sympathetic to the defendant's claim of ignorance of the law and status as a pro se litigant, is bound to uphold New Jersey consumer protection laws.

Gerald C. Escala, P.J.S.C.



RICHARD J. CODEY
Acting Governor

State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF LAW
PO Box 45029
NEWARK, NJ 07101

PETER C. HARVEY
Attorney General

July 11, 2005

Tara Gillette
c/o Teri Gillette
514 Mill Road
Abescon, New Jersey 08201

Re: Unlicensed practice/Order, filed July 7, 2005

Dear Ms. Gillette:

Enclosed please find the Order filed by the Honorable Gerald C. Escala, P.J.S.C., on July 7, 2005 enjoining and restraining you from engaging in any mental health counseling, including but not limited to the use of the title "Life Coach", "Life Counselor."

Pursuant to the Order you are required to provide the Attorney General within ten (10) days of July 7, 2005 with your appointment book and a list of all clients you treated from January 1, 2004 until July 7, 2005, including the number of visits for each client and an accounting of all payments by the clients and all insurance submissions. You are also required to send each client a letter stating that you are not licensed and/or certified to practice mental health therapy and/or counseling and are not authorized to use the designation "Life Coach" and "Life Counselor." A copy of each letter is to be mailed or delivered to the Attorney General to my attention. You are also required to remove all advertisements with any reference to any mental health therapy and/or counseling, including telephone directories.

Pursuant to the Order you are required to pay full restitution to all clients for whom you provided mental health counseling and/or therapy services in the State of New Jersey and



July 11, 2005

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to pay investigative costs and attorneys fees to the State of New Jersey.

Sincerely yours,

PETER C. HARVEY
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

By: _____


Susan C. Berger
Deputy Attorney General

Enc.

c: Elaine DeMars, Executive Director
Kay McCormack, Executive Director
Mileidy Perez, DAG
Jodi Krugman, DAG